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(54) **Method and system for accessing associated data sets in a multimedia environment in a data processing system.**

(57) A method and system in a data processing system for selectively associating stored data with an animated element within a multimedia presentation in a data processing system. At least one data set is created or identified within the data processing system. The data set is then associated within the data processing system with a selected animated element within the multimedia presentation. Thereafter, during the multimedia presentation, the existence of the data set and the association between the data set and the selected animated element is graphically indicated utilizing a rectangle surrounding the animated element, a blinking figure near the animated element or any other suitable graphic indicator. A user may elect to have the associated data set presented by selecting the additional graphic element associated with the specified animated element, or by selecting a button or other graphic indicator, during a specified period of time following the graphic indication.

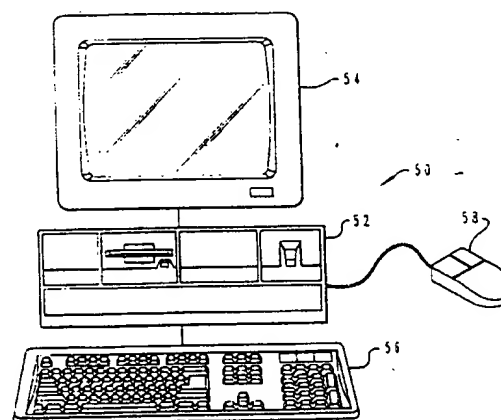


Fig. 1

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European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 93 48 0150

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 5)
X	COMPUTER GRAPHICS WORLD, vol.12, no.8, August 1989 pages 39 - 46 MCMILLAN 'INTERACTIVE MULTIMEDIA MEETS THE REAL WORLD' * the whole document *	1-12	G06F15/72
X	COMMUNICATIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR COMPUTING MACHINERY., vol.32, no.7, July 1989, NEW YORK US pages 811 - 822, XP45770 RIPLEY 'DVI-A DIGITAL MULTIMEDIA TECHNOLOGY' * the whole document *	1-12	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 5)
			G06T
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 24 October 1994	Examiner Burgaud, C
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons A : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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